

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: Harris Ranch Inn & Restaurant
24505 West Dorris Avenue (Belmont Room)
Coalinga, CA 93210

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Executive Director
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MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2017

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, August 8th at approximately 8:05 a.m., Board Member Don Cameron presiding.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Don Cameron
Ben Drake
Ashley Boren

Nancy Casady
Eric Holst

Donald Bransford
Martha Montoya

Absent:

Bryce Lundberg
Mike Gallo

Craig McNamara
Helene Dillard

Joy Sterling

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 11, 2017

Board member Ben Drake moved to approve the minutes of the July 11th meeting. Board member Don Bransford seconded the motion and a unanimous vote (7-0) carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The update included an overview of California's Cap and Trade Extension signed by Governor Brown and how the Administration is committed to working with agricultural sector in implementation. Secretary Ross highlighted the role of a Food Processor Task Force that will be established to address specific emission issues. Other updates included CDFA's award of \$3.9 million in USDA's Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) grant funding to support nutrition initiatives; attendance to the House Agriculture Committee's Farm Bill Listening session in Modesto; and increased pest detections of Huanglongbing (HLB) in residential citrus trees in Southern California.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – California Healthy Soils

The Board heard presentations from representatives from the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service on soil health programs and activities.

Speakers included:

- Amrith Gunasekara, California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Tony Rolfes, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Thomas Hedt, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(6) BOARD DISCUSSION/OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

(7) PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were provided.

(8) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Following the conclusion of agenda items, Board Members participated in an education tour of soil practices that would be eligible under California Healthy Soils Incentive Program.

Tour Sites Included:

- Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Station
17353 W. Oakland Ave
Coalinga, CA
- Terranova Ranch
16729 W. Floral Ave
Helm CA
- R A Sano Farms
44935 W. Shields Ave #B
Firebaugh, CA
- Harris Farms
29475 Fresno-Coalinga Rd
Coalinga, CA

The education/demonstration tour concluded at approximately 4:30 p.m.